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Subject: DOCTOR WHO, DOCTOR WHERE AND MATHSHOW

To: Phillip Hinchcliffe, Drama Serials.

We spoke. Here are the two MATHSHOW scripts which include Doctor Where scenes, plus some background information about MATHSHOW.

Doctor Where will be played by Tony Hughes, Sally-Ann by Jacqueline Clarke and the Brigadier by Charles Collingwood. These three actors play about 60 in-vision and out-of-vision characters, so far, between them. (MATHSHOW is about one-third animation).

In MATHSHOW programme 3, Doctor Where meets a 'powerful anti-mirror' which 'destroys by reflection'. In Programme 6 (for which I created him) he meets a White Point - at the intersection of a line and a circle.

You mentioned the idea of using Doctor Who (not Doctor Where) in an educational context. My own feeling is that you have established him so firmly in the science fiction world, that you'd never get him out of it convincingly. Because mathematics is about abstracting things from the real world and dealing with them as abstractions (e.g. $2 + 3 = 5$) before returning to the real world (e.g. 2 oranges and 3 oranges total 5 oranges), it seemed easy to invent characters, both live action and animated, who inhabited a mathematical world where fantasy could reign supreme. (I didn't do this with Countdown which was full of social relevant maths for 14 - 15 year-olds and set in discos, etc.) I'm not sure how workable this is for, say, Science or History. But having put a mathematician's viewpoint, I'll content myself with copying this memo to colleagues in this Department in case anyone working in other 'subject' areas would like to get in touch with you about it.



(David Roseveare)

20.6.75

Since writing this, today's T.E.S. has come out with another angle on all this! JRL.